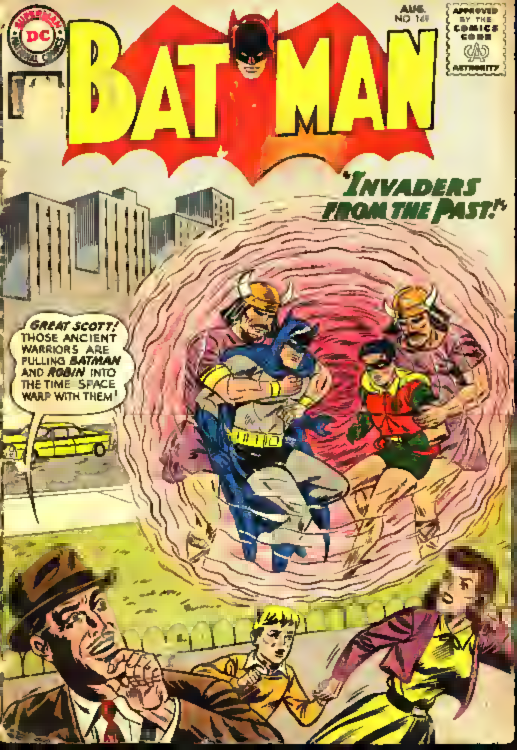
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
AUG.
NO 109
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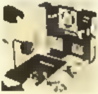

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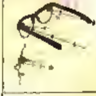

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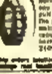

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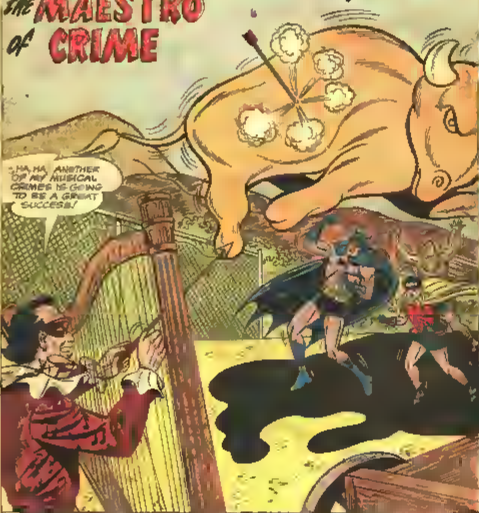
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

HE WAS A STRANGE MAN, WITH A BRILLIANT AND TWISTED MIND, WHO VOWED THAT HIS MUSICAL MISDEEDS WOULD BE REMEMBERED FOREVER! AND IT LOOKED FOR A WHILE AS THOUGH BATMAN AND ROBIN WERE HELPLESS BEFORE THIS MASTER OF MELODY... UNTIL THEY COMPOSED A COUNTERPOINT TO THE MUSICAL THEME OF...

the MAESTRO of CRIME


HA, HA, ANOTHER OF MY MUSICAL CRIMES IS GOING TO BE A GREAT SUCCESS!

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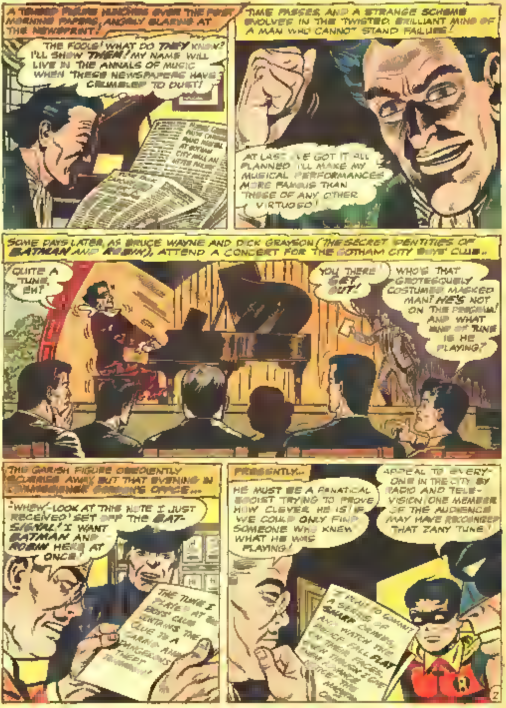
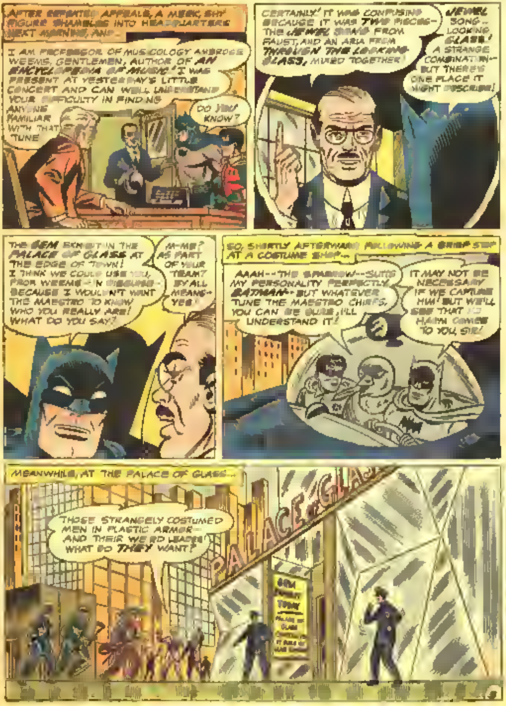
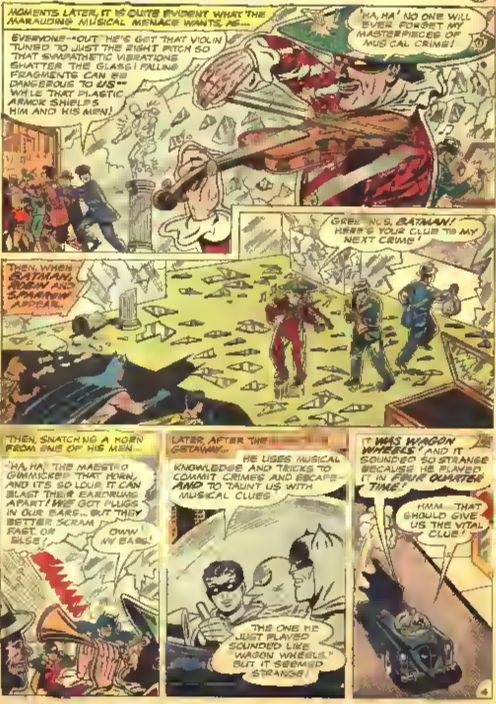
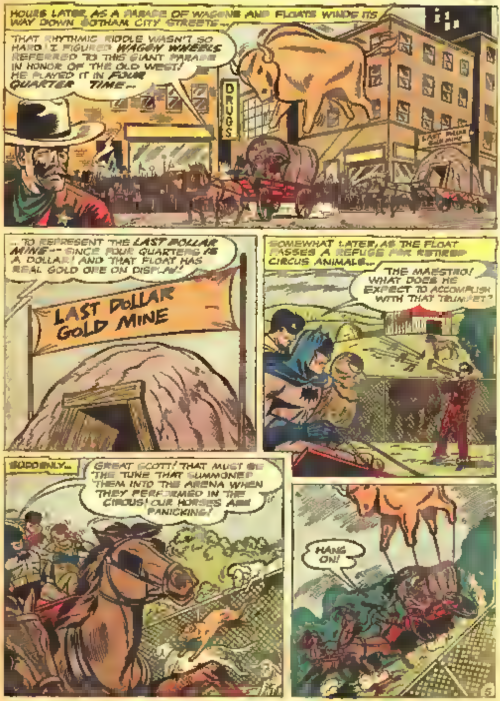
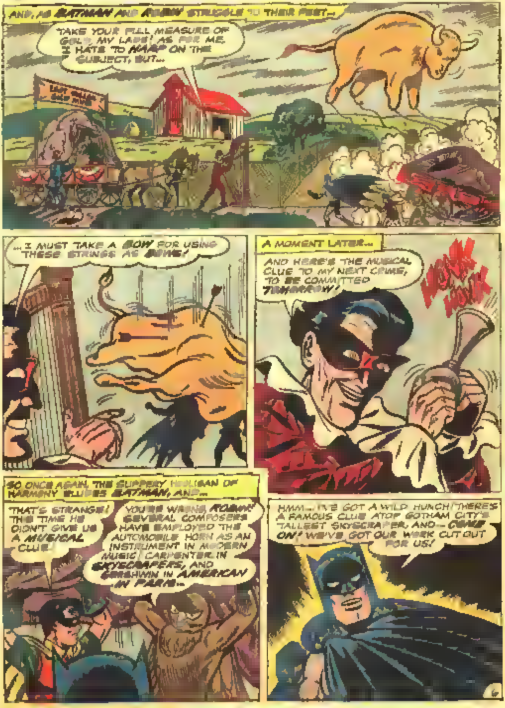
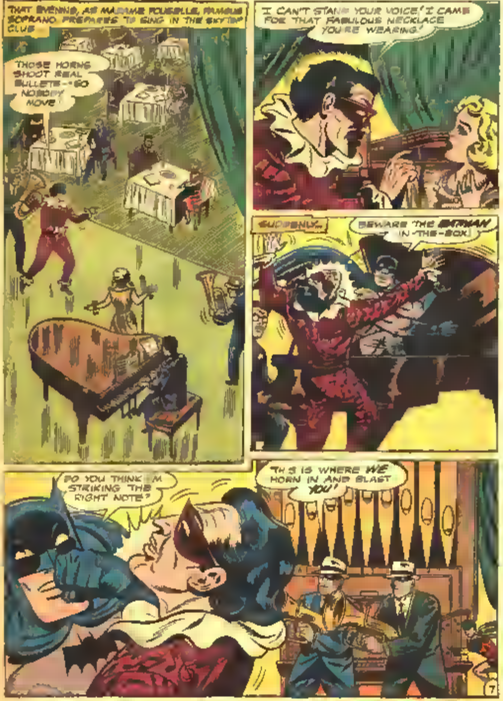

A TENSED FIGURE HUNCHES OVER THE FIRST MORNING PAPERS, ANGRILY GLARING AT THE NEWSPRINT!
THE FOOLS! WHAT DO THEY KNOW? I'LL SHOW THEM! MY NAME WILL LIVE IN THE ANNALS OF MUSIC WHEN THESE NEWSPAPERS HAVE CRUMBLED TO DUST!
TIME PASSES, AND A STRANGE SCHEME EVOLVES IN THE TWISTED, BRILLIANT MIND OF A MAN WHO CANNOT STAND FAILURE!
AT LAST I'VE GOT IT ALL PLANNED! I'LL MAKE MY MUSICAL PERFORMANCES MORE FAMOUS THAN THOSE OF ANY OTHER VIRTUOSO!
SOME DAYS LATER, AS BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON (THE SECRET IDENTITIES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN), ATTEND A CONCERT FOR THE GOTHAM CITY BOYS' CLUB..
QUITE A TUNE, EH?
YOU THERE! GET OUT!
WHO'S THAT GROTESQUELY COSTUMED MASKED MAN? HE'S NOT ON THE PROGRAM! AND WHAT KIND OF TUNE IS HE PLAYING?
THE GARISH FIGURE OBEDIENTLY SCURRIES AWAY BUT THAT EVENING IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
WHEW--LOOK AT THIS NOTE I JUST RECEIVED! SET OFF THE BAT-SIGNAL! I WANT BATMAN AND ROBIN HERE AT ONCE!
THE TUNE I PLAYED AT THE BOYS' CLUB CONTAINS THE CLUE TO A DARING AND DANGEROUS THEFT TOMORROW!
PRESENTLY...
HE MUST BE A FANATICAL EGOIST TRYING TO PROVE HOW CLEVER HE IS! IF WE COULD ONLY FIND SOMEONE WHO KNEW WHAT HE WAS PLAYING!
APPEAL TO EVERYONE IN THE CITY BY RADIO AND TELEVISION! ONE MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE MAY HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT ZANY TUNE!
I PLAN TO COMMIT A SERIES OF SHARP CRIMES AND WATCH THE POLICE FALL FLAT ON THEIR FACES, EVEN THOUGH I GIVE THEM ADVANCE NOTICE! THE MAESTRO

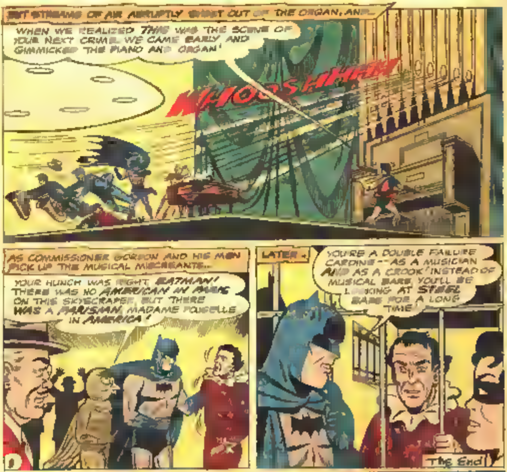

AFTER REPEATED APPEALS, A MEEK, SHY FIGURE SHAMBLES INTO HEADQUARTERS NEXT MORNING, AND...
I AM PROFESSOR OF MUSICOLOGY AMBROSE WEEMS, GENTLEMEN, AUTHOR OF AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MUSIC! I WAS PRESENT AT YESTERDAY'S LITTLE CONCERT AND CAN WELL UNDERSTAND YOUR DIFFICULTY IN FINDING ANYONE FAMILIAR WITH THAT TUNE
DO YOU KNOW?
CERTAINLY! IT WAS CONFUSING BECAUSE IT WAS TWO PIECES-- THE JEWEL SONG FROM FAUST, AND AN ARIA FROM THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS, MIXED TOGETHER!
JEWEL SONG... LOOKING GLASS! A STRANGE COMBINATION-- BUT THERE'S ONE PLACE IT MIGHT DESCRIBE!
THE GEM EXHIBIT IN THE PALACE OF GLASS AT THE EDGE OF TOWN! I THINK WE COULD USE YOU, PROF. WEEMS -- IN DISGUISE-- BECAUSE I WOULDN'T WANT THE MAESTRO TO KNOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE! WHAT DO YOU SAY?
M-ME? AS PART OF YOUR TEAM? BY ALL MEANS-- YES!
SO, SHORTLY AFTERWARD, FOLLOWING A BRIEF STOP AT A COSTUME SHOP...
AAAH--THE SPARROW--SUITS MY PERSONALITY PERFECTLY, BATMAN--BUT WHATEVER TUNE THE MAESTRO CHIRPS, YOU CAN BE SURE I'LL UNDERSTAND IT!
IT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY IF WE CAPTURE HIM! BUT WE'LL SEE THAT NO HARM COMES TO YOU, SIR!
MEANWHILE, AT THE PALACE OF GLASS...
THOSE STRANGELY COSTUMED MEN IN PLASTIC ARMOR-- AND THEIR WEIRD LEADER! WHAT DO THEY WANT?
PALACE of GLASS
GEM TODAY
PALACE OF GLASS


MOMENTS LATER, IT IS QUITE EVIDENT WHAT THE MARAUDING MUSICAL MENACE WANTS, AS...
EVERYONE--OUT! HE'S GOT THAT VIOLIN TUNED TO JUST THE RIGHT PITCH SO THAT SYMPATHETIC VIBRATIONS SHATTER THE GLASS! FALLING FRAGMENTS CAN BE DANGEROUS TO US-- WHILE THAT PLASTIC ARMOR SHIELDS HIM AND HIS MEN!
HA, HA! NO ONE WILL EVER FORGET MY MASTERPIECES OF MUSICAL CRIME!
GREETINGS, BATMAN! HERE'S YOUR CLUE TO MY NEXT CRIME!
THEN, WHEN BATMAN, ROBIN AND SPARROW APPEAR...
THEN, SNATCHING A HORN FROM ONE OF HIS MEN...
HA, HA! THE MAESTRO GIMMICKED THAT HORN, AND IT'S SO LOUD IT CAN BLAST THEIR EARDRUMS APART! WE GOT PLUGS IN OUR EARS... BUT THEY BETTER SCRAM FAST OR ELSE!
OWW! MY EARS!
LATER AFTER THE [illegible] GETAWAY...
HE USES MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE AND TRICKS TO COMMIT CRIMES AND ESCAPE-- AND TO TAUNT US WITH MUSICAL CLUES!
THE ONE HE JUST PLAYED SOUNDED LIKE "WAGON WHEELS," BUT IT SEEMED STRANGE!
IT WAS "WAGON WHEELS," AND IT SOUNDED SO STRANGE BECAUSE HE PLAYED IT IN FOUR QUARTER TIME!
HMM... THAT SHOULD GIVE US THE VITAL CLUE!


HOURS LATER, AS A PARADE OF WAGONS AND FLOATS WINDS ITS WAY DOWN GOTHAM CITY STREETS...
THAT RHYTHMIC RIDDLE WASN'T SO HARD! I FIGURED WAGON WHEELS REFERRED TO THIS GIANT PARADE IN HONOR OF THE OLD WEST! HE PLAYED IT IN FOUR QUARTER TIME...
DRUGS
LAST DOLLAR GOLD MINE
... TO REPRESENT THE LAST DOLLAR MINE -- SINCE FOUR QUARTERS IS A DOLLAR! AND THAT FLOAT HAS REAL GOLD ORE ON DISPLAY!
LAST DOLLAR GOLD MINE
SOMEWHAT LATER, AS THE FLOAT PASSES A REFUGE FOR RETIRED CIRCUS ANIMALS...
THE MAESTRO! WHAT DOES HE EXPECT TO ACCOMPLISH WITH THAT TRUMPET?
SUDDENLY...
GREAT SCOTT! THAT MUST BE THE TUNE THAT SUMMONED THEM INTO THE ARENA WHEN THEY PERFORMED IN THE CIRCUS! OUR HORSES ARE PANICKING!
HANG ON!
5


AND, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN STRUGGLE TO THEIR FEET...
TAKE YOUR FILL MEASURE OF GOLD, MY LADS! AS FOR ME, I HATE TO HARP ON THE SUBJECT, BUT...
...I MUST TAKE A BOW FOR USING THESE STRINGS AS BOWS!
A MOMENT LATER...
AND HERE'S THE MUSICAL CLUE TO MY NEXT CRIME, TO BE COMMITTED TOMORROW!
HONK HONK
SO ONCE AGAIN, THE SLIPPERY HOOLIGAN OF HARMONY ELUDES BATMAN, AND...
THAT'S STRANGE! THIS TIME HE DIDN'T GIVE US A MUSICAL CLUE!
YOU'RE WRONG, ROBIN! SEVERAL COMPOSERS HAVE EMPLOYED THE AUTOMOBILE HORN AS AN INSTRUMENT IN MODERN MUSIC! CARPENTER IN SKYSCRAPERS, AND GERSHWIN IN AMERICAN IN PARIS...
HMM... I'VE GOT A WILD HUNCH! THERE'S A FAMOUS CLUB ATOP GOTHAM CITY'S TALLEST SKYSCRAPER, AND... COME ON! WE'VE GOT OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US!


THAT EVENING, AS MADAME TOUSELLE, FAMOUS SOPRANO, PREPARES TO SING IN THE SKY-TOP CLUB...
THOSE HORNS SHOOT REAL BULLETS--SO NOBODY MOVE!
I CAN'T STAND YOUR VOICE! I CAME FOR THAT FABULOUS NECKLACE YOU'RE WEARING!
SUDDENLY...
BEWARE THE BATMAN-IN-THE-BOX!
DO YOU THINK I'M STRIKING THE RIGHT NOTE?
THIS IS WHERE WE HORN IN AND BLAST YOU!


BUT STREAMS OF AIR ABRUPTLY SHOOT OUT OF THE ORGAN, AND—
WHEN WE REALIZED THIS WAS THE SCENE OF YOUR NEXT CRIME, WE CAME EARLY AND GIMMICKED THE PIANO AND ORGAN!
WHOOSHHHH
AS COMMISSIONER GORDON AND HIS MEN PICK UP THE MUSICAL MISCREANTS...
YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT, BATMAN! THERE WAS NO AMERICAN IN PARIS ON THIS SKYSCRAPER, BUT THERE WAS A PARISIAN, MADAME POUSELLE IN AMERICA!
LATER...
YOU'RE A DOUBLE FAILURE CARDINE -- AS A MUSICIAN AND AS A CROOK! INSTEAD OF MUSICAL BARS, YOU'LL BE LOOKING AT STEEL BARS FOR A LONG TIME!
The End

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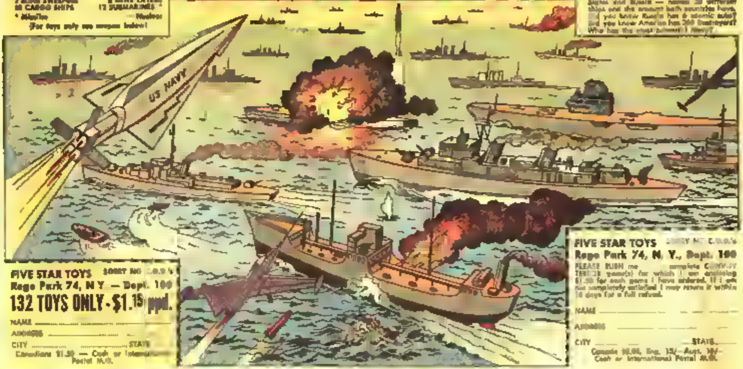

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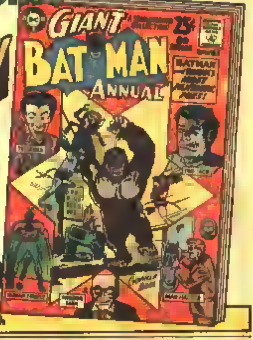

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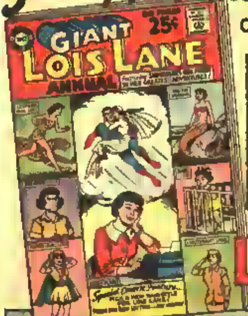

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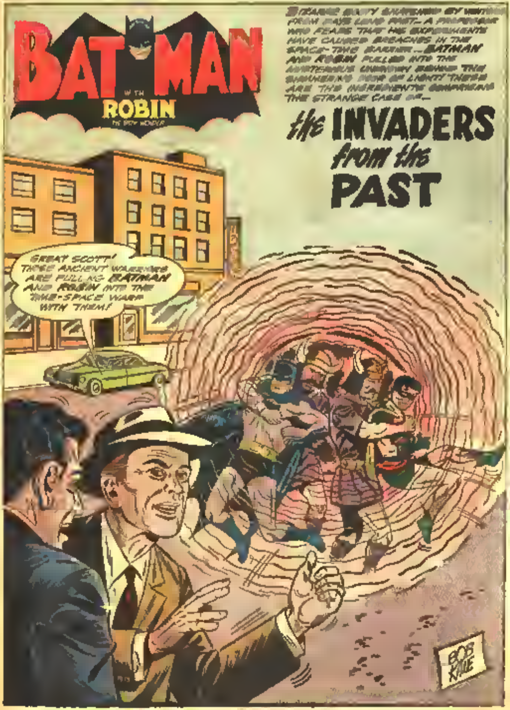
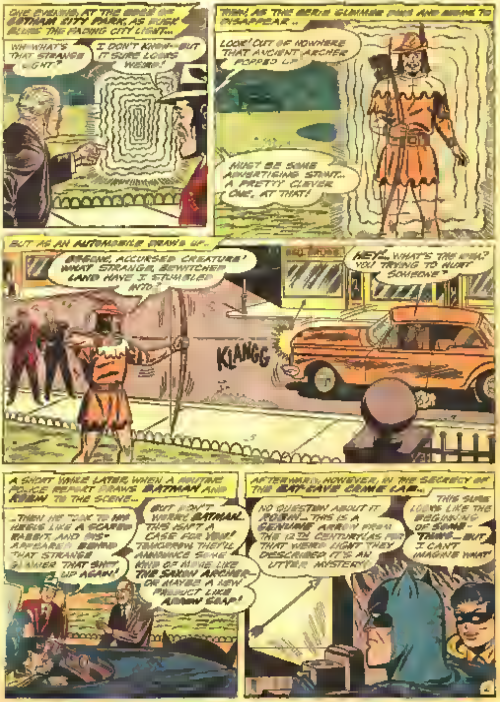
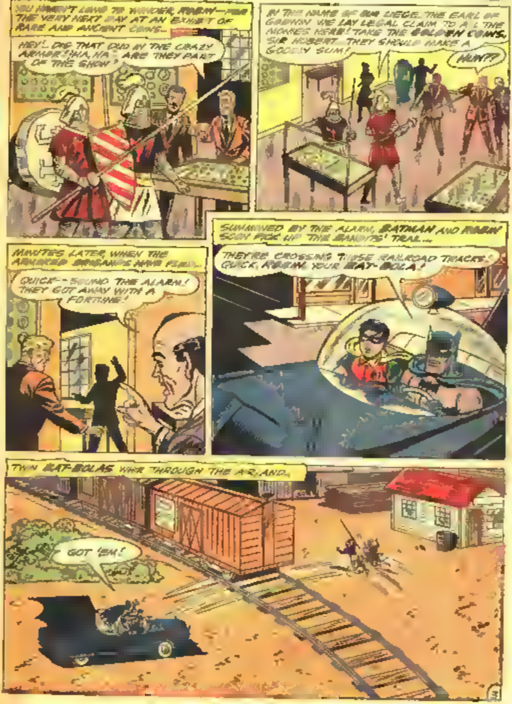
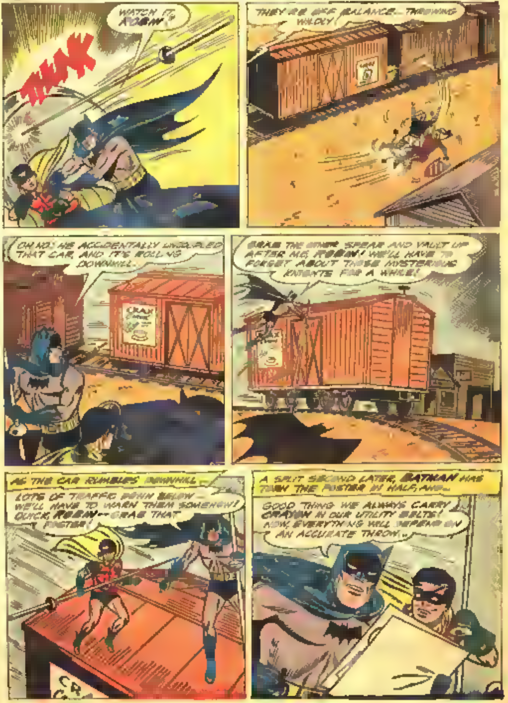
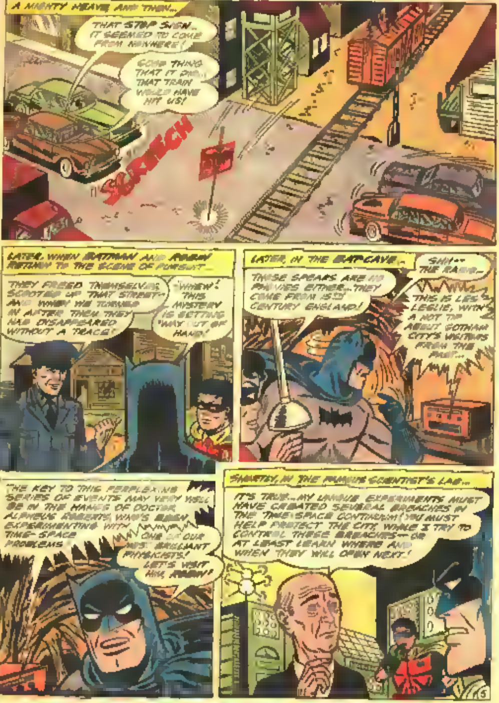
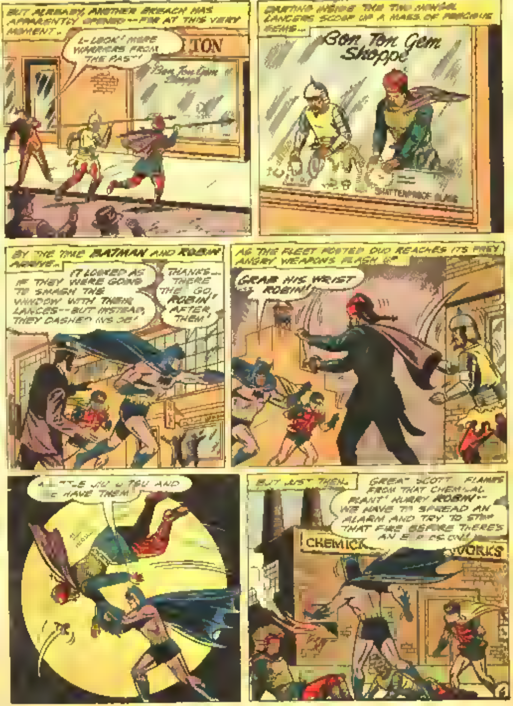

BATMAN
with
ROBIN
the boy wonder
BIZARRE BOOTY SNATCHED BY VISITORS FROM DAYS LONG PAST—A PROFESSOR WHO FEARS THAT HIS EXPERIMENTS HAVE CAUSED BREACHES IN THE SPACE-TIME BARRIER...BATMAN AND ROBIN PULLED INTO THE MYSTERIOUS UNKNOWN BEHIND THE SHIMMERING DOOR OF LIGHT! THESE ARE THE INGREDIENTS COMPRISING THE STRANGE CASE OF—
the INVADERS from the PAST
GREAT SCOTT! THOSE ANCIENT WARRIORS ARE PULLING BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO THE TIME-SPACE WARP WITH THEM!
BOB KANE

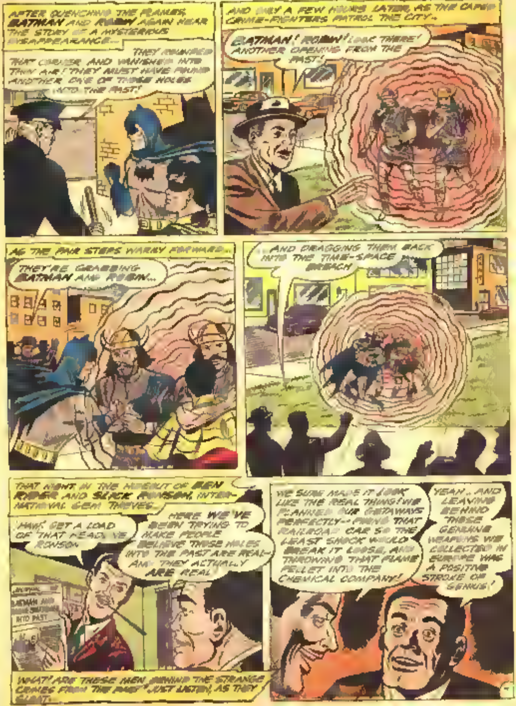

ONE EVENING, AT THE EDGE OF GOTHAM CITY PARK, AS DUSK BLURS THE FADING CITY LIGHT...
WH-WHAT'S THAT STRANGE LIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW--BUT IT SURE LOOKS WEIRD!
THEN, AS THE EERIE GLIMMER DIMS AND SEEMS TO DISAPPEAR..
LOOK! OUT OF NOWHERE THAT ANCIENT ARCHER POPPED UP!
MUST BE SOME ADVERTISING STUNT... A PRETTY CLEVER ONE, AT THAT!
BUT AS AN AUTOMOBILE DRAWS UP..
BEGONE, ACCURSED CREATURE! WHAT STRANGE, BEWITCHED LAND HAVE I STUMBLED INTO?
HEY!... WHAT'S THE IDEA? YOU TRYING TO HURT SOMEONE?
KLANGG
A SHORT WHILE LATER, WHEN A ROUTINE POLICE REPORT DRAWS BATMAN AND ROBIN TO THE SCENE...
...THEN HE TOOK TO HIS HEELS LIKE A SCARED RABBIT, AND DIS-APPEARED BEHIND THAT STRANGE GLIMMER THAT SHOT UP AGAIN!
BUT DON'T WORRY, BATMAN. THIS ISN'T A CASE FOR YOU! TOMORROW THEY'LL ANNOUNCE SOME KIND OF MOVIE LIKE THE SAXON ARCHER-- OR MAYBE A NEW PRODUCT LIKE ARROW SOAP!
AFTERWARD, HOWEVER, IN THE SECRECY OF THE BAT-CAVE CRIME LAB..
NO QUESTION ABOUT IT, ROBIN... THIS IS A GENUINE ARROW FROM THE 12TH CENTURY! AS FOR THAT WEIRD LIGHT THEY DESCRIBED, IT'S AN UTTER MYSTERY!
THIS SURE LOOKS LIKE THE BEGINNING OF SOME-THING... BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT!

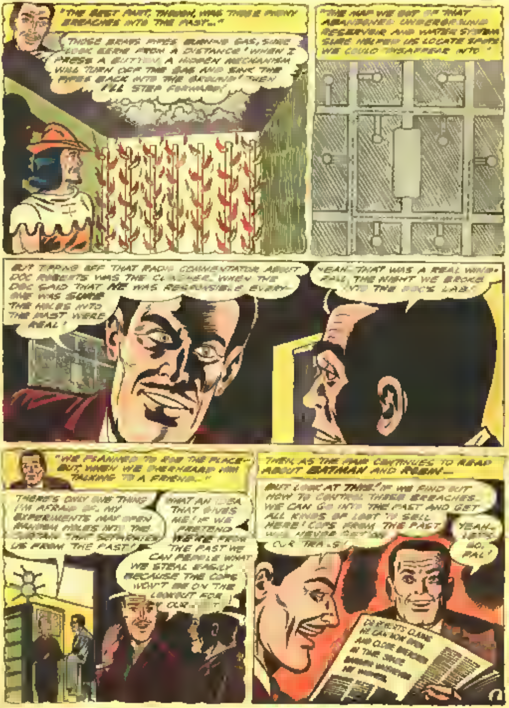

YOU HAVEN'T LONG TO WONDER, ROBIN—FOR THE VERY NEXT DAY AT AN EXHIBIT OF RARE AND ANCIENT COINS...
HEY! DIG THAT DUO IN THE CRAZY ARMOR! HA, HA! ARE THEY PART OF THE SHOW?
IN THE NAME OF OUR LIEGE, THE EARL OF GADWIN, WE LAY LEGAL CLAIM TO ALL THE MONIES HERE! TAKE THE GOLDEN COINS, SIR HUBERT! THEY SHOULD MAKE A GOODLY SUM!
HUH??
MINUTES LATER, WHEN THE ARMORED BRIGANDS HAVE FLED...
QUICK--SOUND THE ALARM! THEY GOT AWAY WITH A FORTUNE!
SUMMONED BY THE ALARM, BATMAN AND ROBIN SOON PICK UP THE BANDITS' TRAIL...
THEY'RE CROSSING THOSE RAILROAD TRACKS! QUICK, ROBIN, YOUR BAT-BOLA!
TWIN BAT-BOLAS WHIR THROUGH THE AIR, AND...
GOT 'EM!

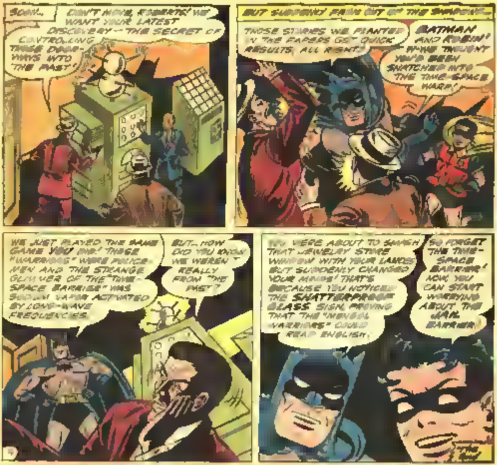

WATCH IT, ROBIN!
THAK
THEY'RE OFF BALANCE... THROWING WILDLY!
OH NO! HE ACCIDENTALLY UNCOUPLED THAT CAR, AND IT'S ROLLING DOWNHILL...
CRAX
GRAB THE OTHER SPEAR AND VAULT UP AFTER ME, ROBIN! WE'LL HAVE TO FORGET ABOUT THOSE MYSTERIOUS KNIGHTS FOR A WHILE!
AS THE CAR RUMBLES DOWNHILL...
LOTS OF TRAFFIC DOWN BELOW -- WE'LL HAVE TO WARN THEM SOMEHOW! QUICK, ROBIN -- GRAB THAT POSTER!
CR
A SPLIT SECOND LATER, BATMAN HAS TORN THE POSTER IN HALF, AND...
GOOD THING WE ALWAYS CARRY CRAYON IN OUR UTILITY BELTS! NOW, EVERYTHING WILL DEPEND ON AN ACCURATE THROW...


A MIGHTY HEAVE AND THEN...
THAT STOP SIGN... IT SEEMED TO COME FROM NOWHERE!
GOOD THING THAT IT DID... THAT TRAIN WOULD HAVE HIT US!
SCREECH
LATER, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN TO THE SCENE OF PURSUIT...
THEY FREED THEMSELVES, SCOOTED UP THAT STREET-- AND WHEN WE TURNED IN AFTER THEM THEY HAD DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE!
WHEW! THIS MYSTERY IS GETTING 'WAY OUT OF HAND!
LATER, IN THE BATCAVE...
THESE SPEARS ARE NO PHONIES EITHER... THEY COME FROM 15TH CENTURY ENGLAND!
SHH-- THE RADIO--
THIS IS LES LESLIE, WITH A HOT TIP ABOUT GOTHAM CITY'S VISITORS FROM THE PAST...
THE KEY TO THIS PERPLEXING SERIES OF EVENTS MAY VERY WELL BE IN THE HANDS OF DOCTOR ALPHEUS ROBERTS, WHO'S BEEN EXPERIMENTING WITH TIME-SPACE PROBLEMS
ONE OF OUR MOST BRILLIANT PHYSICISTS! LET'S VISIT HIM, ROBIN!
SHORTLY, IN THE FAMOUS SCIENTIST'S LAB...
IT'S TRUE... MY UNIQUE EXPERIMENTS MUST HAVE CREATED SEVERAL BREACHES IN THE TIME-SPACE CONTINUUM! YOU MUST HELP PROTECT THE CITY, WHILE I TRY TO CONTROL THESE BREACHES-- OR AT LEAST LEARN WHERE AND WHEN THEY WILL OPEN NEXT!


BUT ALREADY, ANOTHER BREACH HAS APPARENTLY OPENED -- FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT...
L-LOOK! MORE WARRIORS FROM THE PAST!
TON
Bon Ton Gem Shoppe
DARTING INSIDE THE TWO MONGOL LANCERS SCOOP UP A MASS OF PRECIOUS GEMS...
Bon Ton Gem Shoppe
SHATTERPROOF GLASS
BY THE TIME BATMAN AND ROBIN ARRIVE...
IT LOOKED AS IF THEY WERE GOING TO SMASH THE WINDOW WITH THEIR LANCES -- BUT INSTEAD, THEY DASHED INSIDE!
THANKS -- THERE THEY GO, ROBIN! AFTER THEM!
AS THE FLEET FOOTED DUO REACHES ITS PREY ANGRY WEAPONS FLASH UP
GRAB HIS WRIST ROBIN!
A LITTLE JIU JITSU AND WE HAVE THEM!
BUT JUST THEN...
GREAT SCOTT! FLAMES FROM THAT CHEMICAL PLANT! HURRY ROBIN -- WE HAVE TO SPREAD AN ALARM AND TRY TO STOP THAT FIRE BEFORE THERE'S AN EXPLOSION!
CHEMICK
WORKS


AFTER QUENCHING THE FLAMES, BATMAN AND ROBIN AGAIN HEAR THE STORY OF A MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE...
THEY ROUNDED THAT CORNER AND VANISHED INTO THIN AIR! THEY MUST HAVE FOUND ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE HOLES INTO THE PAST!
AND ONLY A FEW HOURS LATER, AS THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS PATROL THE CITY...
BATMAN! ROBIN! LOOK THERE! ANOTHER OPENING FROM THE PAST!
AS THE PAIR STEPS WARILY FORWARD...
THEY'RE GRABBING BATMAN AND ROBIN...
...AND DRAGGING THEM BACK INTO THE TIME-SPACE BREACH
THAT NIGHT, IN THE HIDEOUT OF BEN RIDER AND SLICK RONSON, INTERNATIONAL GEM THIEVES...
HAW! GET A LOAD OF THAT HEADLINE RONSON
BATMAN AND ROBIN SNATCHED INTO PAST
HERE WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE PEOPLE BELIEVE THOSE HOLES INTO THE PAST ARE REAL-- AND THEY ACTUALLY ARE REAL
WE SURE MADE IT LOOK LIKE THE REAL THING! WE PLANNED OUR GETAWAYS PERFECTLY--FIXING THAT RAILROAD CAR SO THE LEAST SHOCK WOULD BREAK IT LOOSE, AND THROWING THAT FLAME PELLET INTO THE CHEMICAL COMPANY!
YEAH.. AND LEAVING BEHIND THOSE GENUINE WEAPONS WE COLLECTED IN EUROPE WAS A POSITIVE STROKE OF GENIUS!
WHAT! ARE THESE MEN BEHIND THE STRANGE CRIMES FROM THE PAST? JUST LISTEN, AS THEY GLOAT...


"THE BEST PART, THOUGH, WAS THOSE PHONY BREACHES INTO THE PAST..."
THOSE BRASS PIPES BURNING GAS, SURE LOOK EERIE FROM A DISTANCE! WHEN I PRESS A BUTTON, A HIDDEN MECHANISM WILL TURN OFF THE GAS AND SINK THE PIPES BACK INTO THE GROUND! THEN I'LL STEP FORWARD!
"THE MAP WE GOT OF THAT ABANDONED UNDERGROUND RESERVOIR AND WATER SYSTEM SURE HELPED US LOCATE SPOTS WE COULD 'DISAPPEAR' INTO."
BUT TIPPING OFF THAT RADIO COMMENTATOR ABOUT DOC ROBERTS WAS THE CLINCHER. WHEN THE DOC SAID THAT HE WAS RESPONSIBLE EVERY-ONE WAS SURE THE HOLES INTO THE PAST WERE REAL!
YEAH-THAT WAS A REAL WIND-FALL, THE NIGHT WE BROKE INTO THE DOC'S LAB!
"WE PLANNED TO ROB THE PLACE-- BUT, WHEN WE OVERHEARD HIM TALKING TO A FRIEND..."
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I'M AFRAID OF. MY EXPERIMENTS MAY OPEN RANDOM HOLES INTO THE CURTAIN THAT SEPARATES US FROM THE PAST!
WHAT AN IDEA THAT GIVES ME! IF WE PRETEND WE'RE FROM THE PAST WE CAN PEDDLE WHAT WE STEAL EASILY BECAUSE THE COPS WON'T BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR OUR LOOT!
THEN, AS THE PAIR CONTINUES TO READ ABOUT BATMAN AND ROBIN--
BUT LOOK AT THIS! IF WE FIND OUT HOW TO CONTROL THESE BREACHES, WE CAN GO INTO THE PAST AND GET ALL KINDS OF LOOT TO SELL HERE! COPS FROM THE PAST WILL NEVER GET ON OUR TRAILS!
YEAH- LET'S GO, PAL!
DR ROBERTS CLAIMS HE CAN NOW OPEN AND CLOSE BREACHES IN TIME SPACE


SOON...
DON'T MOVE, ROBERTS! WE WANT YOUR LATEST DISCOVERY -- THE SECRET OF CONTROLLING THESE DOORWAYS INTO THE PAST!
BUT SUDDENLY FROM OUT OF THE SHADOWS...
THOSE STORIES WE PLANTED IN THE PAPERS GOT QUICK RESULTS, ALL RIGHT!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! WE THOUGHT YOU'D BEEN SNATCHED INTO THE TIME-SPACE WARP!
WE JUST PLAYED THE SAME GAME YOU DID! THOSE "WARRIORS" WERE POLICEMEN AND THE STRANGE GLIMMER OF THE "TIME-SPACE BARRIER" WAS SODIUM VAPOR ACTIVATED BY LONG-WAVE FREQUENCIES.
BUT... HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WEREN'T REALLY FROM THE PAST?
YOU WERE ABOUT TO SMASH THAT JEWELRY STORE WINDOW WITH YOUR LANCES BUT SUDDENLY CHANGED YOUR MINDS! THAT'S BECAUSE YOU NOTICED THE SHATTERPROOF GLASS SIGN, PROVING THAT THE "MEDIEVAL WARRIORS" COULD READ ENGLISH.
SO FORGET THE TIME-SPACE BARRIER! NOW YOU CAN START WORRYING ABOUT THE JAIL BARRIER!
THE END

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Letters to the BAT-CAVE

Dear Editor: BATMAN'S friend, Professor Nichols, is able to send him and ROBIN back into the past, where they have some of their most exciting adventures. How come Professor Nichols keeps his amazing time machine such a deep, dark secret, known only to the crime-fighters? He could become a millionaire if he patented that invention.

Ervin Blake, Grand Rapids, Mich.

(Professor Nichols is first and foremost a scientist. He does not believe man is yet ready for time travel. Thus far, he has limited the use of his invention to BATMAN and ROBIN and his close friends, Bruce Wayne and Dick Grayson.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: Is it true that a *sunburn* once helped BATMAN nab a criminal? Sounds novel—perhaps you could fill me in on the details.

Murray King, Topeka, Kans.

(You're probably referring to a case in which BATMAN was interrogating a number of underworld characters suspected of driving the getaway car after a bold daylight robbery. One of them claimed that he'd been home sleeping in bed, during the hours of the crime. It was then that BATMAN noticed a new sunburn on this suspect's left arm—the arm which drivers usually rest on the window while riding. The rest of his body was untouched by the sun. Since the robbery had occurred only a few hours earlier, that sunburn clue proved the man was lying, and led BATMAN to track down the evidence that brought him to justice.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: BATMAN, ROBIN and SUPERMAN have locked horns with weird wizards from all parts of our world. How about a story in which they meet somebody like that from *another* world?

Ludwig Krause, Birmingham, Ala.

(Coming up! You'll be meeting a fantastic character like that—"THE SORCERER FROM THE STARS"—in the AUGUST issue of WORLD'S FINEST COMICS, No. 127.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: How come BATMAN and ROBIN don't wear bullet-proof vests?

Van Lang, Binghamton, N.Y.

(Bullet-proof vests, while affording one form of protection, would hinder the crime-fighters in other ways. One of BATMAN and ROBIN'S greatest weapons is their agility, which would be impeded by such a bulky garment.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: Whenever BATMAN or ROBIN use a BATARANG or one of their other large weapons, I can't help wondering where they carry this equipment. You never see it on them until the moment they produce it.

Rod Benson, Racine, Wis.

(Most of the crime-fighters' portable equipment is collapsible—able to be folded or taken apart into units small enough to fit into their utility belts or cape pouches.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: I'm sure there are times when BATMAN *and* ROBIN, in their everyday identities of Bruce Wayne and Dick Grayson, have to transmit crime-fighting information to each other, without arousing the suspicion of other people around them. Do they have some special way of doing this?

Truman Fitch, Tombstone, Ariz.

(BATMAN and ROBIN, on such occasions, use a secret code which sounds like ordinary conversation to the average person. Similarly, they use special hand signs and facial expressions that appear normal and meaningless to the untrained eye.—Ed.)

Dear Reader: In our last "LETTERS TO THE BAT-CAVE," we promised you the story "ROBIN, THE SUPER BOY WONDER" in this issue of BATMAN COMICS. Unfortunately, certain difficulties forced us to re-schedule this adventure for our next issue (SEPTEMBER, No. 150). We trust you will understand, and—once again—we're sorry.

Sincerely
The Editor

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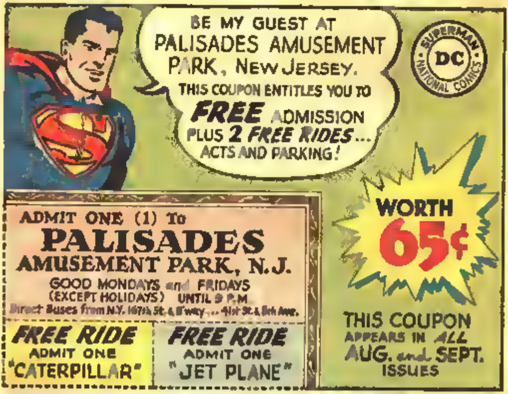

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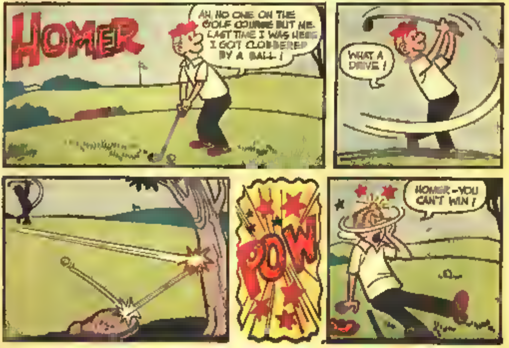
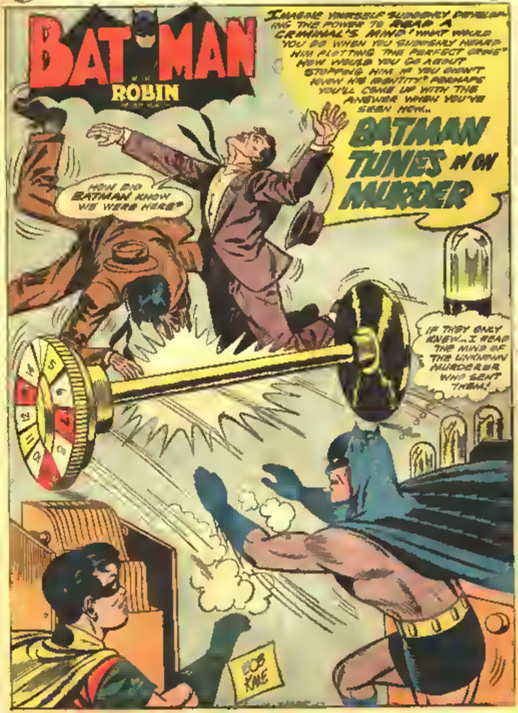
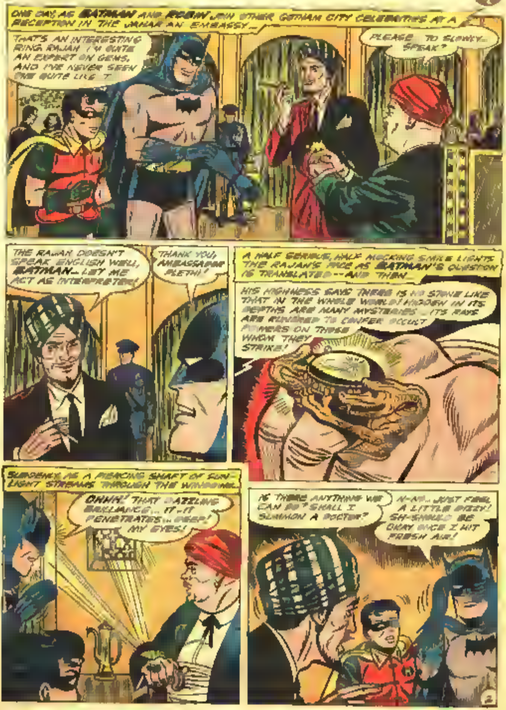
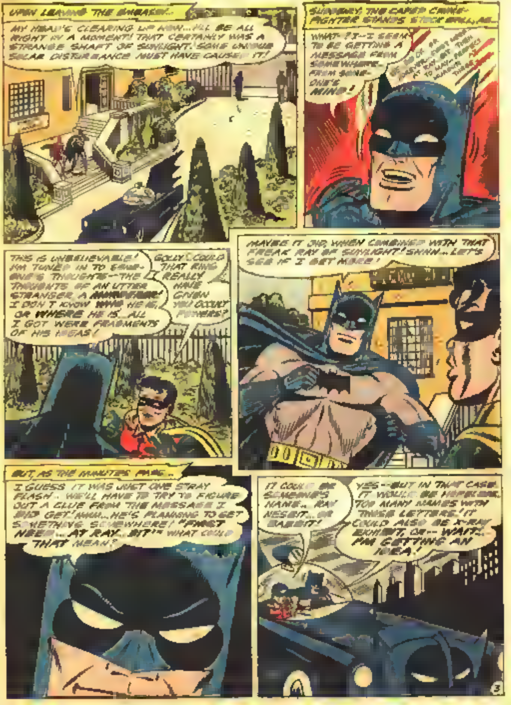
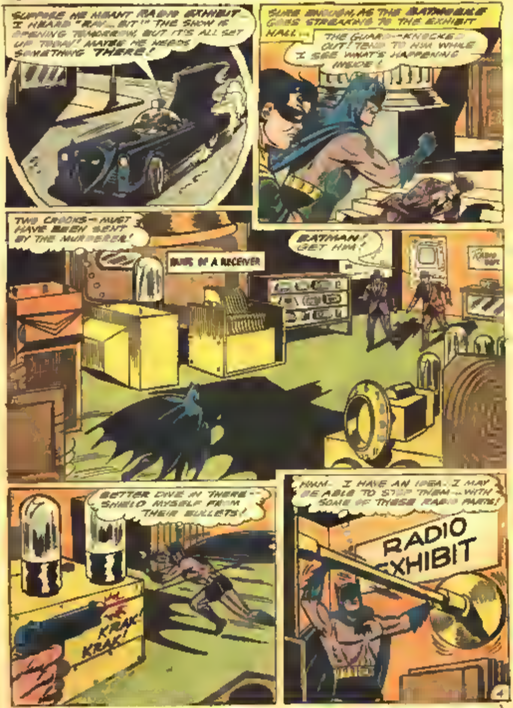
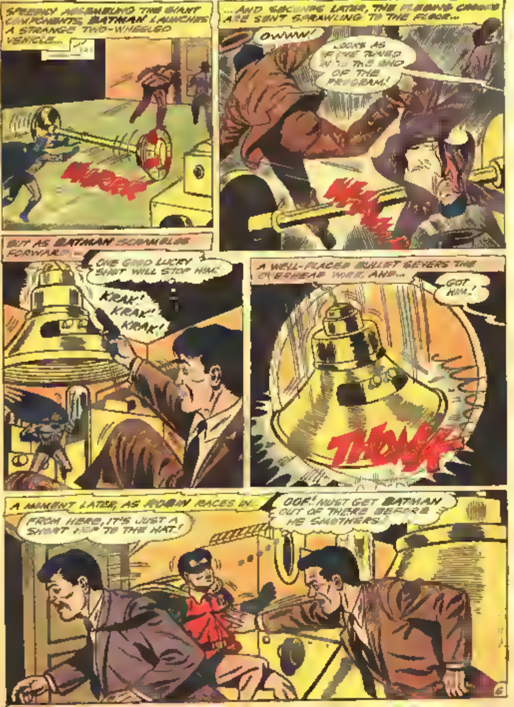

HOMER
AH, NO ONE ON THE GOLF COURSE BUT ME. LAST TIME I WAS HERE I GOT CLOBBERED BY A BALL!
WHAT A DRIVE!
POW
HOMER-YOU CAN'T WIN!

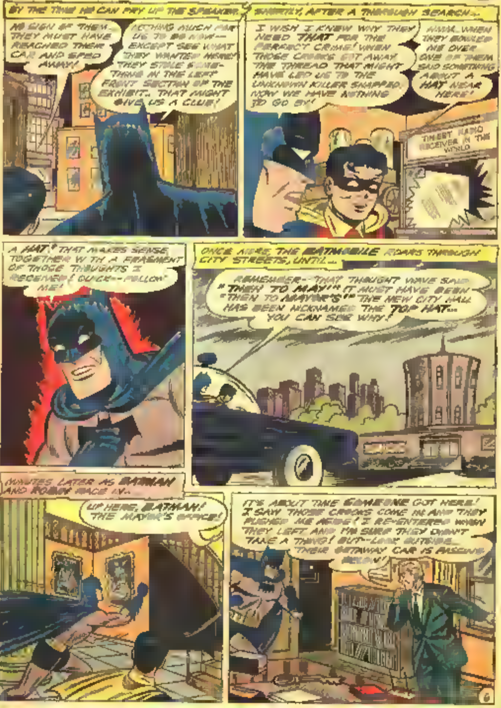

BATMAN with ROBIN the boy wonder
IMAGINE YOURSELF SUDDENLY DEVELOPING THE POWER TO READ A CRIMINAL'S MIND! WHAT WOULD YOU DO WHEN YOU SUDDENLY HEARD HIM PLOTTING "THE PERFECT CRIME"? HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT STOPPING HIM IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW HIS IDENTITY? PERHAPS YOU'LL COME UP WITH THE ANSWER WHEN YOU'VE SEEN HOW..
BATMAN TUNES IN ON MURDER
HOW DID BATMAN KNOW WE WERE HERE?
IF THEY ONLY KNEW.. I READ THE MIND OF THE UNKNOWN MURDERER WHO SENT THEM!
BOB KANE

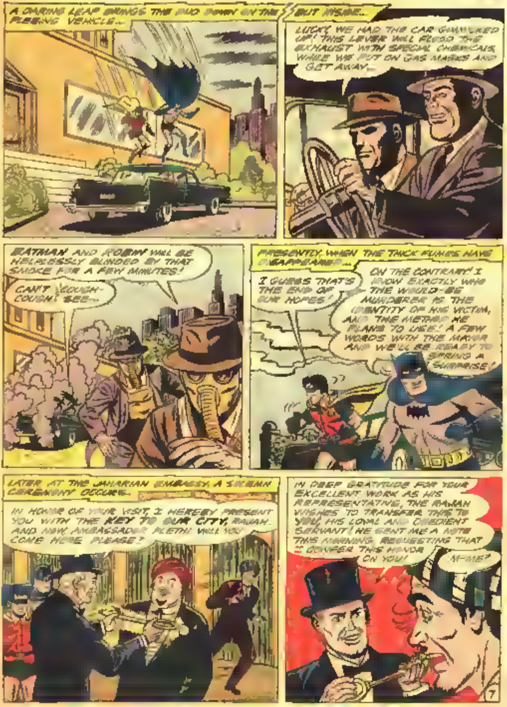

ONE DAY, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN JOIN OTHER GOTHAM CITY CELEBRITIES AT A RECEPTION IN THE JAHAR AN EMBASSY...
THAT'S AN INTERESTING RING, RAJAH! I'M QUITE AN EXPERT ON GEMS, AND I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE QUITE LIKE IT.
PLEASE... TO SLOWLY... SPEAK?
THE RAJAH DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH WELL, BATMAN... LET ME ACT AS INTERPRETER!
THANK YOU, AMBASSADOR PLETHI!
A HALF SERIOUS, HALF MOCKING SMILE LIGHTS THE RAJAH'S FACE AS BATMAN'S QUESTION IS TRANSLATED--AND THEN...
HIS HIGHNESS SAYS THERE IS NO STONE LIKE THAT IN THE WHOLE WORLD! HIDDEN IN ITS DEPTHS ARE MANY MYSTERIES... ITS RAYS ARE RUMORED TO CONFER OCCULT POWERS ON THOSE WHOM THEY STRIKE!
SUDDENLY, AS A PIERCING SHAFT OF SUN-LIGHT STREAMS THROUGH THE WINDOW...
OHHH! THAT DAZZLING BRILLIANCE... IT-IT PENETRATES... DEEP! MY EYES!
IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO? SHALL I SUMMON A DOCTOR?
N-NO... JUST FEEL A LITTLE DIZZY! SH-SHOULD BE OKAY ONCE I HIT FRESH AIR!

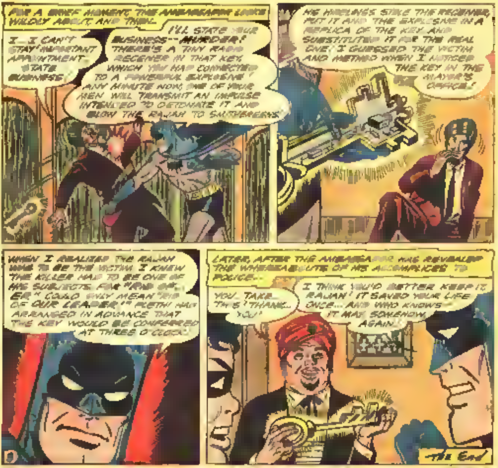

UPON LEAVING THE EMBASSY...
MY HEAD'S CLEARING UP NOW...I'LL BE ALL RIGHT IN A MOMENT! THAT CERTAINLY WAS A STRANGE SHAFT OF SUNLIGHT. SOME UNIQUE SOLAR DISTURBANCE MUST HAVE CAUSED IT!
SUDDENLY, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER STANDS STOCK STILL, AS...
WHAT--? I--I SEEM TO BE GETTING A MESSAGE FROM SOMEWHERE... FROM SOMEONE'S MIND!
THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE! I'M TUNED IN TO SOMEONE'S THOUGHTS--THE THOUGHTS OF AN UTTER STRANGER, A MURDERER! I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS, OR WHERE HE IS...ALL I GOT WERE FRAGMENTS OF HIS IDEAS!
GOLLY! COULD THAT RING REALLY HAVE GIVEN YOU OCCULT POWERS?
MAYBE IT DID, WHEN COMBINED WITH THAT FREAK RAY OF SUNLIGHT! SHHH... LET'S SEE IF I GET MORE!
BUT, AS THE MINUTES PASS...
I GUESS IT WAS JUST ONE STRAY FLASH... WE'LL HAVE TO TRY TO FIGURE OUT A CLUE FROM THE MESSAGE I DID GET! HMM... HE'S PLANNING TO GET SOMETHING SOMEWHERE! "FIRST NEED... AT RAY... BIT" WHAT COULD THAT MEAN?
IT COULD BE SOMEONE'S NAME... RAY NESBIT... OR BABBIT!
YES--BUT IN THAT CASE IT WOULD BE HOPELESS. TOO MANY NAMES WITH THESE LETTERS! IT COULD ALSO BE X-RAY EXHIBIT, OR-- WAIT... I'M GETTING AN IDEA!


SUPPOSE HE MEANT RADIO EXHIBIT. I HEARD "RA... BIT!" THE SHOW IS OPENING TOMORROW, BUT IT'S ALL SET UP TODAY! MAYBE HE NEEDS SOMETHING THERE!
SURE ENOUGH, AS THE BATMOBILE GOES STREAKING TO THE EXHIBIT HALL...
THE GUARD--KNOCKED OUT! TEND TO HIM WHILE I SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING INSIDE!
TWO CROOKS--MUST HAVE BEEN SENT BY THE MURDERER!
PARTS OF A RECEIVER
BATMAN! GET HIM!
BETTER DIVE IN THERE--SHIELD MYSELF FROM THEIR BULLETS!
KRAK! KRAK!
HMM-- I HAVE AN IDEA...I MAY BE ABLE TO STOP THEM...WITH SOME OF THESE RADIO PARTS!
RADIO EXHIBIT


SPEEDILY ASSEMBLING THE GIANT COMPONENTS, BATMAN LAUNCHES A STRANGE TWO-WHEELED VEHICLE...
WHRRR
...AND SECONDS LATER, THE FLEEING CROOKS ARE SENT SPRAWLING TO THE FLOOR...
OWWW!
LOOKS AS IF WE TUNED IN TO THE END OF THE PROGRAM!
BUT AS BATMAN SCRAMBLES FORWARD--
ONE GOOD LUCKY SHOT WILL STOP HIM!
KRAK! KRAK! KRAK!
A WELL-PLACED BULLET SEVERS THE OVERHEAD WIRE, AND...
GOT HIM!
THOOM
A MOMENT LATER, AS ROBIN RACES IN...
FROM HERE, IT'S JUST A SHORT HOP TO THE HAT!
OOF! MUST GET BATMAN OUT OF THERE BEFORE HE SMOTHERS!
6


BY THE TIME HE CAN PRY UP THE SPEAKER,
NO SIGN OF THEM... THEY MUST HAVE REACHED THEIR CAR AND SPED AWAY!
NOTHING MUCH FOR US TO DO NOW--EXCEPT SEE WHAT THEY WANTED HERE! THEY STOLE SOMETHING IN THE LEFT FRONT SECTION OF THE EXHIBIT... THAT MIGHT GIVE US A CLUE!
SHORTLY, AFTER A THOROUGH SEARCH...
I WISH I KNEW WHY THEY NEED THAT FOR THE PERFECT CRIME! WHEN THOSE CROOKS GOT AWAY, THE THREAD THAT MIGHT HAVE LED US TO THE UNKNOWN KILLER SNAPPED. NOW WE HAVE NOTHING TO GO BY!
HMM... WHEN THEY BOWLED ME OVER, ONE OF THEM SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A HAT NEAR HERE!
FINEST RADIO RECEIVER IN THE WORLD
A HAT? THAT MAKES SENSE TOGETHER WITH A FRAGMENT OF THOSE THOUGHTS I RECEIVED! QUICK--FOLLOW ME!
ONCE MORE, THE BATMOBILE ROARS THROUGH CITY STREETS, UNTIL...
REMEMBER--THAT THOUGHT WAVE SAID "THEN TO MAY!" IT MUST HAVE BEEN "THEN TO MAYOR'S!" THE NEW CITY HALL HAS BEEN NICKNAMED THE TOP HAT... YOU CAN SEE WHY!
MINUTES LATER AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RACE IN...
UP HERE, BATMAN! THE MAYOR'S OFFICE!
IT'S ABOUT TIME SOMEONE GOT HERE! I SAW THOSE CROOKS COME IN AND THEY PUSHED ME ASIDE! I RE-ENTERED WHEN THEY LEFT AND I'M SURE THEY DIDN'T TAKE A THING! BUT--LOOK OUTSIDE... THEIR GETAWAY CAR IS PASSING BELOW!


A DARING LEAP BRINGS THE DUO DOWN ON THE FLEEING VEHICLE...
BUT INSIDE...
LUCKY WE HAD THE CAR GIMMICKED UP! THIS LEVER WILL FLOOD THE EXHAUST WITH SPECIAL CHEMICALS WHILE WE PUT ON GAS MASKS AND GET AWAY...
BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL BE HELPLESSLY BLINDED BY THAT SMOKE FOR A FEW MINUTES!
CAN'T (COUGH-COUGH) SEE...
PRESENTLY, WHEN THE THICK FUMES HAVE DISAPPEARED...
I GUESS THAT'S THE END OF OUR HOPES!
ON THE CONTRARY! I KNOW EXACTLY WHO THE WOULD-BE MURDERER IS, THE IDENTITY OF HIS VICTIM, AND THE METHOD HE PLANS TO USE! A FEW WORDS WITH THE MAYOR AND WE'LL BE READY TO SPRING A SURPRISE!
LATER AT THE JAHARIAN EMBASSY, A SOLEMN CEREMONY OCCURS...
IN HONOR OF YOUR VISIT, I HEREBY PRESENT YOU WITH THE KEY TO OUR CITY, RAJAH. AND NOW, AMBASSADOR PLETHI, WILL YOU COME HERE PLEASE?
IN DEEP GRATITUDE FOR YOUR EXCELLENT WORK AS HIS REPRESENTATIVE, THE RAJAH WISHES TO TRANSFER THIS TO YOU, HIS LOYAL AND OBEDIENT SERVANT! HE SENT ME A NOTE THIS MORNING, REQUESTING THAT I CONFER THIS HONOR ON YOU!
M-ME?


FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, THE AMBASSADOR LOOKS WILDLY ABOUT, AND THEN...
I... I CAN'T STAY! IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT... STATE BUSINESS!
I'LL STATE YOUR BUSINESS--MURDER! THERE'S A TINY RADIO RECEIVER IN THAT KEY, WHICH YOU HAD CONNECTED TO A POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE! ANY MINUTE NOW, ONE OF YOUR MEN WILL TRANSMIT AN IMPULSE INTENDED TO DETONATE IT AND BLOW THE RAJAH TO SMITHEREENS!
HIS HIRELINGS STOLE THE RECEIVER, PUT IT AND THE EXPLOSIVE IN A REPLICA OF THE KEY AND SUBSTITUTED IT FOR THE REAL ONE! I GUESSED THE VICTIM AND METHOD WHEN I NOTICED THE KEY IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE!
WHEN I REALIZED THE RAJAH WAS TO BE THE VICTIM, I KNEW THE KILLER HAD TO BE ONE OF HIS SUBJECTS, FOR "RID OF... ER" COULD ONLY MEAN "RID OF OUR LEADER!" FLETHI HAD ARRANGED IN ADVANCE THAT THE KEY WOULD BE CONFERRED AT THREE O'CLOCK!
LATER, AFTER THE AMBASSADOR HAS REVEALED THE WHEREABOUTS OF HIS ACCOMPLICES TO POLICE...
YOU... TAKE... THIS! THANK... YOU!
I THINK YOU'D BETTER KEEP IT, RAJAH! IT SAVED YOUR LIFE ONCE... AND WHO KNOWS... IT MAY SOMEHOW AGAIN...
The End

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And you don't have to read music! In this quickest-to-learn system, Chet shows you every step of the way BOTH BY NOTE AND BY SIMPLE DIAGRAMS.

Included are Chet Atkins never-before-released, complete arrangements —worth the money alone. Also, free brand-new king-size picture of Chet, suitable for framing. What a bargain!

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Kindly rush the Chet Atkins Method to me. If not completely satisfied I may return course to you for full refund.

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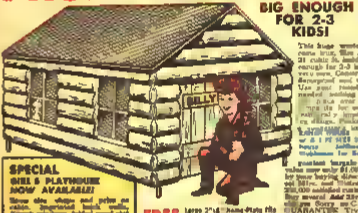
$1.00 5 for $4.00

BIG ENOUGH FOR 2-3 KIDS!



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☐ Frontier Cabin or Girl's Playhouse or Any Combination — 5 for only $4.00 plus $1.00 postage and handling

I enclose ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ M.O. Sorry, No C.O.D.'s

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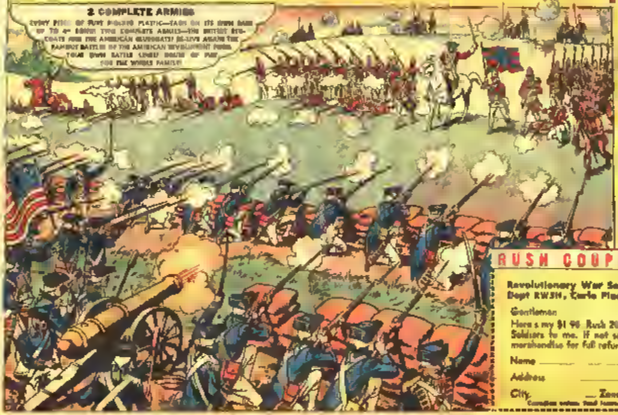
ONLY $1.98



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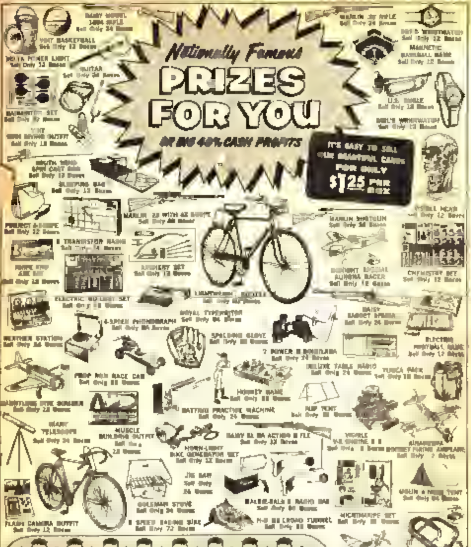
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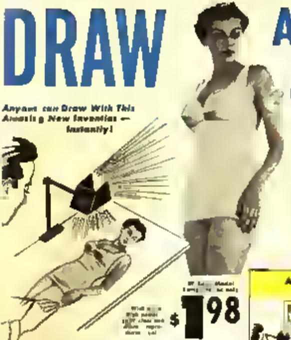
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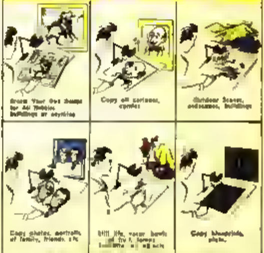

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